

Mark Graf statement

I first became concerned about security at Rocky Flats in October 1995, when we discovered a semi trailer containing six pallets of Secret documents with detailed drawings of the plutonium part of nuclear warheads with specific measurements and quality records. The trailer was unalarmed, unsealed, and was only secured with a cheap padlock.

Later that month it was determined that nearly 500 kilograms of plutonium oxide had to be moved out of an inadequately fortified vault because the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) was going to be inspecting it. As a result, the plutonium was moved to an even LESS fortified room – but one that the IAEA would not be inspecting. This room had drywall walls, and a single padlock. We needed six armed guards to prevent theft or radiological sabotage scenarios because there were unsecured air ducts approximately six foot square in both the ceiling and floor of the room. Once we moved the plutonium into this room, Kaiser Hill the managing contractor, ordered the guards to be dropped to two, and then to none – with no change in the vulnerability of the plutonium.

These events coincided with the resignation of the former DOE Director of Security at Rocky Flats, who resigned in protest after he was told his job was not to raise security concerns, but to facilitate the contractor getting paid their award fee.

In December, 1995 a colleague and I wrote a letter to former Congressman Skaggs of Colorado asking for assistance in resolving security problems at Rocky Flats. Congressman Skaggs gave the letter to DOE Hill Rocky Flats, who immediately claimed the letter was classified. DOE confiscated the letter from the congressman's staff and sent a computer security person to my home to erase my files and confiscate my printer ribbon. In less than one month the DOE office of Classification confirmed that the letter contained NO CLASSIFIED information. By then the damage was done.

I was put on administrative leave and a fitness for duty evaluation made of my mental status. The reason I was given was my preoccupation with security at Rocky Flats. A trait I though was desirable in a security professional at Rocky Flats. Three reviews by psychiatrists (???) all concluded that I was fit for duty.

I filed a complaint with the Department of Labor, who found in my favor. I went back to work under agreement between my Attorneys at the Government Accountability Project and attorneys for Wackenhut.

Being a whistleblower is not a title I predicate my existence on. I prefer to look at it as a dissenting opinion, an open mind looking for the most efficient and effective security we can provide. I have worked hard and diligently to correct security problems at Rocky Flats. Some significant issues have been corrected. Some things have gotten worse. Current vulnerabilities at DOE facilities are treated as Classified Information. If discussions about current vulnerabilities are desired, approvals and clearances must be proven.